



# MARAD Update



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## Pride of Aloha Christened

### First of Three Cruise Ships Expected to Bring Thousands of Jobs to U.S. Citizens

U.S. Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert joined local officials on July 4, as the cruise ship *Pride of Aloha* was christened in Honolulu.

"The ceremony signals the expected revival of the Hawaii cruise trade and the creation of new American jobs," said Captain Schubert. "The revival of oceangoing U.S.-flag cruising is great news for the nation. A robust maritime industry is vital to our economic well-being and national security."

The Maritime Administration helped bring the *Pride of Aloha*, formerly the *Norwegian Sky*, into the U.S.-flag fleet by overseeing the implementation of the reflagging effort enabling the ship to meet the requirements established by Congress. NCL America's 2,000-passenger, state-of-the-art ship started flying the Stars and Stripes on June 7, when it began the voyage to Hawaii to embark on seven-day inter-island cruises. The *Pride of America* and *Pride of Hawaii* also will be flagged as U.S. ships.

"We are very pleased to be able to revive U.S.-flagged oceangoing passenger shipping, creating domestic jobs and domestic economic benefit," said Colin Veitch, President and CEO of NCL America. "The U.S.-flagged *Pride of Aloha* will be one of the finest ships in our fleet, and we appreciate all that the Maritime Administration and Department of Transportation have done to make this day happen."

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The *Pride of Aloha*

Photos Courtesy of NCL



*Pride of Aloha* crew participates in the christening ceremony and receives a standing ovation as the first 100% crew in nearly 50 years.

## Administrator's Message

### Captain William G. Schubert

There's been a lot for us to be proud of lately, in MARAD and in the maritime industry overall. The reflagging of the *Pride of Aloha* and three new ship disposal contracts both mark breakthroughs. But, I have to say one of the most moving times for me in the past few months--in fact, in my life--was the dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., when I was privileged to represent the Merchant Marine as their chief of service.

That meant that the merchant mariners who served in World War II had a representative on the stage, on an equal footing with the chiefs of service representing the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. We are all too familiar with the near-invisibility of the mariners, whose transport of more than 270 billion long tons of cargo made winning the war possible for the Allies; we are all too familiar with their casualty rate. The reasons they weren't recognized were a combination of the secrecy necessary during the war, and some ungenerous politics afterwards. My predecessors in this job and I have fought to get them the recognition and the veterans' benefits they deserve.

If you haven't seen the National World War II Memorial, I urge you to visit. It's beautiful, and it has the seal of the U.S. Merchant Marine on it. It meant a lot to me to see that, and to see merchant marine veterans standing shoulder to shoulder with their fellow veterans. They fought the war together, and they were honored together. That's the way it should be.



*Another new class is launched as the 2004 U.S. Merchant Marine Academy graduates toss their hats into the air.*

*Story on Page 8.*

*Photo by Martin Skrocki,  
Public Information Officer, USMMA*

## Upcoming Events

### National Propeller Club Conference and Convention

Biloxi, Miss.

October 5-8, 2004

[www.propellerclubhq.com](http://www.propellerclubhq.com)

### MARAD-Sponsored Third Annual Short Sea Shipping Conference—2004

October 13-15, 2004

New York City

[www.shortseashippingconference2004.com](http://www.shortseashippingconference2004.com)

If you know of an upcoming event you would like published in the *MARAD Update*, please submit it to Ella Thomas at [ella.thomas@marad.dot.gov](mailto:ella.thomas@marad.dot.gov).

## Schubert Announces New Ship Disposal Contracts

In a June 24 news conference held on the dock at the James River Reserve Fleet site, Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert announced the signing of three new ship disposal contracts.

Marine Metals of Brownsville, Texas, was awarded three contracts valued at \$3.1 million to dismantle the *American Banker*, the *Mormacmoon*, and the *Santa Cruz*. All three ships are considered high-priority vessels for dismantling and recycling.

"Through a lot of hard work and determination, we continue to achieve results that we have not had for many years," said Captain Schubert. "During the 1990's, ships in this fleet accumulated due to prolonged inactivity," he said. "We have seriously faced this task in the wake of many inherited challenges and hurdles. It remains our goal to remove high-priority ships from our fleets as soon as possible."

After the news conference, Captain Schubert led reporters on a tour of the *Santa Cruz*, assisted by Curt Michanczyk of the Ship Disposal Office, and Jeff McMahon and Willie Barnes of the South Atlantic Region. The event was covered by both Norfolk daily papers, three television affiliates, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, and the Associated Press.



Captain Schubert descending the ladder.



Left to Right: Reporter; Curt Michanczyk; Captain Schubert; Reporters; Willie Barnes, South Atlantic Region

Photos by Michael Bagley, Superintendent, James River Reserve Fleet



As an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) mission is to strengthen the U.S. maritime transportation system—including infrastructure, industry, and labor—to meet the economic and security needs of the nation. MARAD programs promote the development and maintenance of an adequate, well-balanced United States merchant marine, sufficient to carry the Nation's domestic waterborne commerce and a substantial portion of its waterborne foreign commerce, and capable of service as a naval and military auxiliary in time of war or national emergency. MARAD also seeks to ensure that the United States maintains adequate shipbuilding and repair services, efficient ports, effective intermodal water- and land-transportation systems, and reserve shipping capacity for use in time of national emergency.



## U.S. Transportation Secretary Mineta Honors U.S. Merchant Marine on National Maritime Day *Receives National D-Day Museum's American Spirit Medallion*

As part of the observance of National Maritime Day this year, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta honored the men and women of the U.S. Merchant Marine who risked their lives on wartime seas. This year's ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. on May 20 paid special tribute to the action of mariners during World War II.

Following the presentation of the colors by the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy's Color Guard and a moment of silence, Secretary Mineta spoke of World War II merchant mariners who sacrificed their lives in service to the nation. "They traveled unarmed, often into dangerous waters, to support our Armed Forces overseas. Their work was vital to the Allied cause, and without their sacrifice that cause, and our freedom, might have been lost."

Merchant mariners crewed the Liberty ships, the Victory ships, and thousands of other ships that carried troops and many tons of materiel for the Allied cause in World War II. Nearly 215,000 people served in the U.S. Merchant Marine in World War II, and almost one mariner in 30 died in the line of duty. In fact, the Merchant Marine suffered higher casualty rates than any branch of the Armed Services except the Marine Corps.

Secretary Mineta also received an award for his selfless contributions to the nation. Presented by National D-Day Museum President and CEO Gordon H. Mueller, the American Spirit Medallion is awarded to individuals who exemplify the optimism, courage, and sacrifice that characterizes what has been called the "greatest generation." "I am deeply honored to receive the American Spirit Medallion," said Secretary Mineta. "I genuinely appreciate the fine work that all of you do at the museum every day."

Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert noted that the U.S. Merchant Marine was founded in 1775, and has served in every conflict in United States history. Captain Schubert said, "Merchant mariners were ready to serve their country at a moment's notice in the past, are prepared to do so now, and will continue to be prepared in the future."

National Maritime Day was established in 1933, and honors the courage, vision, and achievements of the American Merchant Marine. The ceremony was attended by merchant marine veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.



*Reverend Father John A. Jamnicky,  
National Director of the Apostleship of the Sea,  
gave the invocation and benediction.*



*Gordon H. Mueller, President and CEO of the  
National D-Day Museum, presents the American Spirit  
Medallion to Secretary Mineta*

*Photos by  
Ella Thomas*

## National Maritime Day Celebrated at the Port of Wilmington, North Carolina

By Gwendolyn S. Davis, South Atlantic Region

As the sunlight illuminated the clear sky in Wilmington, NC, on May 23, 6,000 plus eager compatriots assembled at the Port of Wilmington to celebrate National Maritime Day. Residents in Wilmington look forward to this festive event each year.

It is one of the rare occasions when the people of Wilmington actually get an opportunity to see what is behind the gates of the facility on the Cape Fear River. The visitors filled the port's warehouse browsing exhibit booths, sampling all types of finger foods, and listening to foot stomping music. Throughout the day, there were exhibitions and demonstrations from all branches of the Armed Forces. In addition, ship tours and cruises were conducted for all age groups.

A wreath laying ceremony was held to commemorate Merchant Mariners who risked and lost their lives in service to this nation, as well as living maritime heroes and seafarers who presently serve in the maritime community and industry.



*Cape Lambert*, a MARAD RRF vessel, was docked at the port and used for tours. Nearly 1,000 people toured the ship.

*Cape Washington* and *Cape Wrath*, MARAD RRF vessels, were docked at the port to discharge military cargo from Iraq. It was awesome to watch a small tug push a 670-foot vessel into docking position and see the unloading of military equipment that was recently used in combat. Many excited sightseers gathered to observe.



*Photos by Gary Jackson, Son of Steve Jackson, South Atlantic Region*

With the festive atmosphere of a fun-filled day at the carnival, Wilmington's National Maritime Day celebration ended with residents hurrying to their cars with bags full of assorted goodies collected from the booths and tables inside the warehouse.

It was a day of fun, remembrance, and enlightenment.

## National World War II Memorial Dedicated: Schubert Represents U.S. Merchant Marine

May 29 was a sparkling, sunlit day in Washington, D.C.; perfect for a huge outdoor ceremony. A crowd of nearly 140,000 turned out for the dedication of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall. They heard President George W. Bush praise those who served in World War II, stating, "In all, more than 16 million Americans would put on the uniform of the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the Marine, the Coast Guardsman or the Merchant Mariner."

Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert represented the Merchant Marine as their service chief, just as veterans of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard were represented by chiefs of service. Recognition of the service of merchant mariners in World War II was slow in coming. For many years they were denied veterans' benefits, and chronicles of wartime heroism usually left them out. Those omissions have become less frequent in recent years, and the seal of the U.S. Merchant Marine is now firmly established on the memorial. In fact, the first two battles memorialized on the Atlantic side of the monument are those of the Merchant Marine, the Battle of the Atlantic, and the Murmansk Run.

Captain Schubert said of his appearance at the ceremony, "It was one of the greatest honors that I have experienced, not only in my tenure as Maritime Administrator, but in my life. I was truly humbled to be on the same podium as so many Medal of Honor winners."



*Photo Courtesy of National World War II Memorial*



*Photo Courtesy of American Maritime Officers*



*Left to Right: Vice Admiral Joseph D. Stewart, Superintendent, U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, and Kevin Krick, Senior Advisor for Maritime Policy*



## MARAD RRF Participates in CJLOTS Exercise in Honduras

By Brian Blower, Marine Surveyor, South Atlantic Region

Four MARAD Ready Reserve Force (RRF) ships participated in a Combined Joint Logistics Over the Shore (CJLOTS) Exercise near Puerto Castilla, Honduras. Joint Logistics Over the Shore (JLOTS) Exercises afford the capability for the military to conduct cargo operations in underdeveloped and shallow-water ports around the world. The CJLOTS presented an invaluable training opportunity for exercise participants to practice ship-to-shore cargo transfers as part of a larger multi-national humanitarian-relief exercise known as Exercise NEW HORIZONS 2004. Three MARAD regions were represented with the RRF SEABEE ship *SS Cape May* and the auxiliary crane ship *SS Flickertail State* from the South Atlantic Region, the Roll-On/Roll-Off ship *MV Cape Trinity* from the Central Region, and the Off-Shore Petroleum Discharge System tanker *SS Mount Washington* representing the Western Region.

While under the Navy's Military Sealift Command's operational command, the four MARAD vessels worked in conjunction with the Navy's High-Speed Vessel (HSV) *Swift* and Army lighterage (small boats used to ferry cargo from the ships to the shore) to successfully discharge 250,000 square feet of supplies and materiel required to establish a base camp and support humanitarian-relief efforts in Central America.

The *SS Cape May* delivered the initial load of cargo including the floating causeway sections needed to assemble the Roll-On/Roll-Off Discharge Facility and the side loadable warping tugs and landing craft Mike 8 boats used to ferry the cargo ashore. The *SS Cape May* also delivered all the heavy engineering and cargo handling equipment and vehicles needed to build a 950-person base camp.

The *MV Cape Trinity* and the *SS Flickertail State* discharged a combined total of over 800 pieces of cargo, while simultaneously conducting vessel-to-vessel compatibility studies for the Naval Sea Systems Command. During the exercise, *MV Cape Trinity* conducted a "first" by discharging rolling stock "in stream" onto floating causeway sections for transfer to the HSV and subsequent transit to shore. Meanwhile, the *SS Flickertail State* provided 130,000 gallons of potable water pumped over the side into 12,000-gallon bladder bags, which were used to sustain the base camp.

Not to be outdone, the *SS Mount Washington* discharged an impressive 1.2 million gallons of fresh water ashore to a holding tank in a simulated petroleum discharge, thereby fulfilling the primary mission of the tanker.

Once the relief efforts were completed and the base camp was disassembled, the *SS Cape May* and the *SS Flickertail State* were backloaded (the cargo was reloaded aboard ship), and all the ships sailed for home to await their next mission.



*SS Flickertail State and MV Cape Trinity*



Photos by  
Brian Blower

*MV Cape Trinity*

## USMMA Places First in Cyber Defense Exercise

Midshipmen from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy captured top honors over the other four federal service academies in the recent Cyber Defense Exercise (CDX), a one-of-a-kind training exercise designed to prepare academy students to protect and defend the nation's critical information systems.

CDX is a project of the National Security Agency (NSA), America's top security branch. The exercise pits teams of midshipmen and cadets from the Merchant Marine, Military, Naval, Air Force, and Coast Guard Academies against NSA's security experts.

The service academy students devised a secure computer network capable of handling real traffic. A team from NSA tried to penetrate and disrupt the networks over a period of four days to see how well the students could detect and defend against around-the-clock cyber attacks.

The USMMA team adviser, Prof. Shashi Shah, confirmed that the CDX is serious business. "The way computers work these days, a hacker could really bring ruination to a computer network," he said. "These students will be in a position someday to participate in cyber security at large."

**This country was founded and built by people with  
great dreams and the courage to take great risks.**

*President Ronald W. Reagan*

## Launching Kings Point's Class of 2004

The ranks of Kings Point alumni grew measurably on June 21 as 181 midshipmen of the Class of 2004 graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Under sunny skies, the graduates listened to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta, the commencement speaker, praise their academic accomplishments and strong character.

The Academy is "home to men and women of exceptional character and uncommon valor," Secretary Mineta said. "Maybe it has something to do with the regimental values of the Academy that stress integrity from within, respect for others, encouragement in adversity, and service above self."

Secretary Mineta was introduced to the graduation audience by Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert, himself a 1974 Kings Point alumnus. Later on in the proceedings, Capt. Schubert presented the Vice Admiral Gordon McIntock Award to Cmdr. Raymond Gardner, an Engineering Department faculty member who was selected by the graduating class as having made a major contribution to their education and training.

The Class of 2004 included 16 women and one graduate each from Canada and the Republic of Panama.

*Top Photo: Keynote commencement speaker U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta provides the new U.S. Merchant Marine Academy graduates with words of encouragement and praise.*

*Bottom Photo: Captain William G. Schubert presents the Vice Admiral Gordon McIntock Award for exceptional teaching to Cmdr. Raymond Gardner, an engineering professor at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.*

*Photos by Martin Skrocki,  
Public Information Officer, USMMA*



### ***MARAD Update***

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